



**COUNTY OF PLACER
FISH & GAME COMMISSION**

**Ed King
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
County Contact**

FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1 Don Gould	DISTRICT 2 Mark Fowler
DISTRICT 3 Gregg McKenzie	DISTRICT 4 Gary Flanagan
DISTRICT 6 Kari Freidig	DISTRICT 7 Marc Wyatt
DISTRICT 5 Mickey Daniels	

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**PLACER COUNTY
FISH & GAME COMMISSION
MINUTES**

TIME/DATE: 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, October 21, 2015
LOCATION: PLACER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ROOM
Community Development Resource Agency, DeWitt Center, Auburn
3091 County Center Drive (corner of Bell Road and Richardson
Drive)

The Placer County Fish & Game Commission is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in its public meetings. If you are hearing impaired, we have listening devices available. If you require additional disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Recording Secretary at (530) 889-7372. If requested, the agenda shall be provided in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. All requests must be received at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which you are requesting accommodation. Requests received after such time will be accommodated only if time permits.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Kari Freidig
- II. ROLL CALL**
Present: Daniels, Fowler, Flanagan, Freidig
Absent: Gould, McKenzie, Wyatt
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA for October 21, 2015 and APPROVAL OF MINUTES for September 23, 2015**
Agenda: Flanagan/Fowler/MPUV
Minutes: Freidig/Flanagan/MPUV
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**
Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Fish & Game Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than five (5) minutes. ***No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment***
N/A
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT** – Ed King
Expenditures through September 30, totaled \$1,235.56 including \$570.00 in commissioner's fees, \$584.51 in mileage reimbursement, and \$67.50 for media services.

Revenues through September 30, totaled \$197.56, including \$101.11 in fines, \$60.67 in penalty assessments and \$35.78 in interest.

VI. AGENCY REPORTS

A. Commission Updates

Freidig reported reading online at sciencealert.com about a new substance developed by Australian researchers: a polymer made from orange peels and sulfur that extracts mercury from water. The substance is non-toxic and may also be adapted to remove mercury from soil.

Fowler mentioned recent articles in the Auburn Journal, which described the North Fork of the American River Canyon as a major migration route for the turkey vulture. Auburn-area bird watchers logged 17,100 sightings in 22 days.

Flanagan offered to share copies of the Legislative Reports he gets from Bill Gaines.

1. State Wildlife Conservation Board Subcommittee – Gregg McKenzie
Commissioner McKenzie was not present.

2. State Fish & Game Commission Subcommittee – Mark Fowler
Waterfowl season is coming; hunters should expect late or canceled openings due to the drought. CDFW is sponsoring hunting opportunities for youth, women, families, and mobility-impaired hunters, locally on October 28 in Butte County. CDFW has received an award for endangered species conservation from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative for their work on the fisher weasel. The 2015 Youth Essay Contest theme is about how the writer's mentor has influenced their views. The grand prize is a lifetime California hunting license, and the deadline is December 18. Wildlife officers will perform checks at agricultural inspection stations in October and November to check for things like wasting disease brought in from out of state. CDFW is offering a waterfowl hunting clinic at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area on November 21. CDFW is also monitoring deer mortalities, and suspects that most cases stem from adenovirus hemorrhagic disease. Since it is spread via deer congregating in groups, citizens are urged not to feed or water deer. CDFW has finished its update to the Statewide Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). California is home to 197 mammal species, 433 species of birds, 84 reptiles, 67 species of freshwater fish and 5,047 native plants.

Freidig suggested that the Commission invite someone from CDFW to give a presentation on the SWAP.

B. California Department of Fish & Wildlife - Lt. John Lawson
Lt. Lawson was not present

C. Nevada Irrigation District & Placer County Water Agency Reports

OCTOBER 2015 PCWA Report – Ben Ransom

French Meadows is at 5,173' (39,472 AF)

Hell Hole is at 4,447' (48,029 AF)

--We are targeting a combined reservoir storage low point of 82,500 AF in November

Folsom Reservoir is currently at ~356' (161,000 AF) and is projected to be at 352' (145,000 AF) by the end of November. Flows in the Lower American are projected to be 500 cfs through December.

Rain in the King Fire burn area this winter will cause prolonged turbidity throughout the Rubicon River and Middle Fork American River downstream of Ralston Afterbay.

OCTOBER NID Report – Sue Sindt

Thanks to the efforts of our customers and NID's internal efforts NID ended the irrigation season with approximately 132,000 acre feet of storage (85% of average). Treated water conservation has averaged 27% through September as compared to 2013.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

VII. Bass Pro Shop's Wildlife Conservation Programs – Dan Duggar, Store Manager, Rocklin

The company's founder, John L. Morris, has always been a supporter of natural resources conservation. Bass Pro Shops sponsor national programs, and each store manager is directed to seek out and support local conservation organizations. Each month they sponsor one organization, and will solicit donations from customers.

Bass Pro Shops has three locations in California: Rancho Cucamonga, Manteca, and Rocklin, and they plan to open another store soon in San Jose. Rancho Cucamonga donated over \$12,000 in 2014, and are up to \$9,000 this year in in-state donations. Manteca donated \$4,700 in 2015 and \$6,900 in 2015 locally, and contributed \$1,500 to the Rocky Mountain Elk traveling conservation exhibit trailer. Bass Pro Shops also allows nonprofit conservation groups to hold fundraising BBQs in their parking lots. For the Rocklin store opening, Bass Pro Shops earmarked the entire proceeds for the evening to be split between CDFW and the new wildlife museum they're building next to their corporate headquarters.

John L. Morris built a huge Conservation Education Center adjacent to their flagship store in Springfield, MO. The center is currently undergoing renovations that will include a huge saltwater aquarium, longer than a football field, and

viewable from below. The finished center will be 315,000 square feet and is scheduled to open in Spring, 2016.

Flanagan explained how the Fish & Game Commission is funded and why the grant program was suspended this year; he asked whether Bass Pro Shops could help fund the grant program. Duggar stated that they only donate to registered 501(c)(3) organizations involved with conservation and wildlife, and said he'd be happy to see a list of eligible grant recipients if the Commission could create one.

Freidig stated that she noticed from Bass Pro Shop's website that the company supports the Boy Scouts, and asked if they supported Girl Scouts as well. Duggar confirmed that they do, in addition to many other youth groups.

Flanagan asked how many stores they operated, and Duggar stated he believed they were up to 90. Fowler asked how many people were employed, and Duggar replied about 260 regular, and that they plan on adding 70 for seasonal.

VIII. Commissioner Updates on Possible Issues or Beneficial Projects in their Districts

Fowler reported a couple of courses being offered in November by the Northwest Environmental Training Center at the University of Phoenix campus in Sacramento: a Pacific salmon ecology workshop November 2 and 3, and a Pacific salmonids spawning habitat restoration workshop November 4 through 6.

Freidig reported speaking to Supervisor Montgomery and discovered that NID's Parker Dam project, which has been renamed the Centennial Reservoir, is scheduled to proceed, and she will be following that project. Freidig also reported that Montgomery asked about the continuing problems with bears. King replied that the Agricultural Commissioner is involved with the meetings, and that the bear video is still in the planning stage. King also mentioned that Placer Environmental Utilities is working to promote bear bins. Freidig asked if they could provide status updates, and King replied that the Public Information Office will be the ones creating the video, and that King would contact Environmental Utilities about bear bins.

An audience member wanted to know if there's been any investigation into the Foresthill shooting of a mother bear and her cub, and the status of the surviving cub. Fowler reported that he spoke with the warden for that area, and the only news he can report is that there was a confession.

IX. Next meeting and future agenda items

Tentatively November 18, 2015, at 6:00 PM, as the regular meeting date falls on the day before Thanksgiving. If no agenda has been assembled by November 6, the meeting may be canceled.

Freidig reported that Ben Ransom may still be able to present, but the Commission needs to firm up dates for future meetings.

King suggested an action item during a future meeting to form a Legislative Committee to follow relevant lawmaking trends in Sacramento. Commission members' response was favorable.

X. Adjournment

7:52 P.M.